Nashville Tenn. 1

Dear Prof. Gray.

I have collected last summer a good many of the seeds of Erythronium tuberosum with the intention of distributing the same for introduction in Europe and now inclose a parcel of them. The seed coats must be cut or filed before sowing or the bulb will fail to germinate before spring.

I collected the Erythronium well on the 2nd inst in open glades on land and not of great value, also Gleditsia triacanthos, Cercis canadensis & Prunus mexicana. The latter represents the [illegible] variety, which [illegible] Texas in the form patches of thickets and on the edge of the woods. I

want to consider as a guide and indicator what kind of [illegible] are probable to be found in a district, where general plants is known.

In this region [illegible] near [illegible] or [illegible] a third [illegible] the hamlet [illegible] nearly. We [illegible] it Lavergne, 16 miles from Nashville on the Nashville & Chattanooga road.

Prof. Sargent has asked me to make a collection of roots, or bulbs. I replied to him that [illegible] without the proposition but would wish, if it could be done, that a man [illegible] chance to make one or more excursions [illegible] the [illegible].

I have been told by the Post Office officials that some new Postal regulations allow specimens to be sent [illegible] by labels. I will examine the law myself. I believe some of my labels were in the Superior. Yours with the highest

regard A. Gattinger

[illegible] appearance [illegible] Wellman Oldenlandia [illegible] [illegible] also [illegible] grass in the same [illegible] Ecuador.

The first specimen I picked up was a straying one and I held it between my fingers quite a little while, looking at the a insignificant mildew looking closely. I knew one I had the Leavenworthia auricula or other I had been searching so long! [illegible] are pale golden yellow with no perceptible scent in. It does not grow in quite so large tufts as Mitchanzia which often forms whole sods. Mitchanzia has purplish petals with a yellow eye sometimes more sometimes less distinct.

The leaves are [illegible] average twice as long as broad or combined between the seeds, already in very early state.

The pods of Mitch have fewer seeds, are comparatively flatter, but little scent data between the seeds on their inner surface.

I have found thousands of Mitchanzia which is very [illegible] nearly black [illegible] very closely, for years before I could find a yellow one but I am now sure that there is no intermediate forms.

It has always been a matter of peculiar interest to me to observe the association of plants which gives us the characteristic of the vegetation, and much practice in the more detailed discrimination, I am